

# Torrance Herald

Established 1914

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REID L. BUNDY - Managing Editor

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## Out of Hibernation?

Ballpark hawkers, moving through the crowds to sell their wares, are supposed to cry out, "You can't tell the players without a program!"

We're not certain that any leather-tongued peddler ever really sold his scorecards that way, but it sounds reasonable.

Be that as it may, we believe it is about time some hawkers rose up and offered Torrance spectators a scorecard on the groups put together during the past few days to pursue a save-the-city campaign.

Out of the woods in the recent weeks has come a "blind" committee for "good government." We call it a "blind" committee because no names are reported with it, none of its officers or members have been disclosed, and its general composition apparently is known only to its organizers.

Another such committee does have a chairman. A former candidate for the City Council has announced formation of a "clean government" committee to back a ticket of challengers at the April 14 election. As the founder, he also serves as chairman. Whether the group has any other officers or members is not disclosed.

Still a third such group—and there may well be more—has sent notices to The Herald, this one identifying only a secretary. It also is dedicated to "good government."

So far as can be determined here, these committees could well be different names for the same campaign organization, could all be the machines of one candidate—or two, or three—or could be simply the ploy of some individual seeking a moment of glory. We have no idea.

If the groundswell of interest in city government is such that it calls for the formation of these various committees, we wonder what plans for continuing the work of the groups after next April 14 have been drawn—if any.

We wonder, for that matter, where these committee organizers have been recently. Are they biennial groundhogs who are drawn out by some instinctive force about the time of the vernal equinox each even-numbered year—which happens to coincide with municipal election schedules?

If so, will they retreat to their lairs of hibernation until 1966?

Concern for good government should be more than an alternate year ritual—it should be the day-to-day business of all citizens.

The Herald hopes the present concern for good government is more than a campaign vehicle for someone. We hope, and Torrance should hope, that it is an awakening of the citizens to their responsibility to government.

## Out of the Past

From the Pages of the HERALD

### 50 Years Ago

Editions of The HERALD for March 20, 1914, were forecasting a boom in Torrance as construction activity began to "loom large." The same newspaper announced the start of several buildings in the downtown section. "The HERALD hopes also to announce in near issues the location in Torrance of several new factories," said the article.

El Prado Park, still a beautiful site in the city, was being landscaped and no expense was being spared. "In making the park the very best in Southern California."

J. S. Torrance hosted some 35 industrial millionaires on a tour of Torrance. The city drew praise from all the "captains of industry." Said one of the men, "Torrance has a great future as an industrial city."

### 40 Years Ago

Oil was still the big news and the boom really began. Five new wells in "the 5,000 barrel class" were brought in, and a 5,000-barrel-a-day gusher was reported in the Carson area. In fact, the entire front page of The HERALD editions for March 21, 1924, was turned over to the oil fields.

The editor made a few observations on the political scene for the same edition. Some samples: "Vote Yes on the \$100,000 bond issue for a city hall." "President Coolidge is the strongest candidate in the country today."

### 30 Years Ago

School bonds were approved in an election called for mid-March by a 2 to 1 majority, according to The HERALD for March 22, 1934. The bonds, issued by the Los Angeles City Schools, included provisions for Tor-

rance High and Torrance Elementary schools.

In sports, the Torrance High relay team raced around the track to nab first place in the two-mile relay in the Los Angeles City Schools relays with a team that included Louie Zamperini in the anchor spot.

In an unusual sporting event, Bob Wellen ran a mile in a flat seven minutes, only to lose a bet to his fellow staffers at The HERALD. Wellen, a good track man while at Compton High, had boasted he could still run the distance in six minutes, dress suit and all.

### 20 Years Ago

With the war still going on strong, those left in Torrance pitched in to meet 50 per cent of their \$8,000 quota in the Red Cross drive with less than half the time gone, according to The HERALD for March 23, 1944.

The Torrance Chamber of Commerce estimated the population of the community at 14,500 in a special bulletin. The chamber reported its own membership stood at 75.

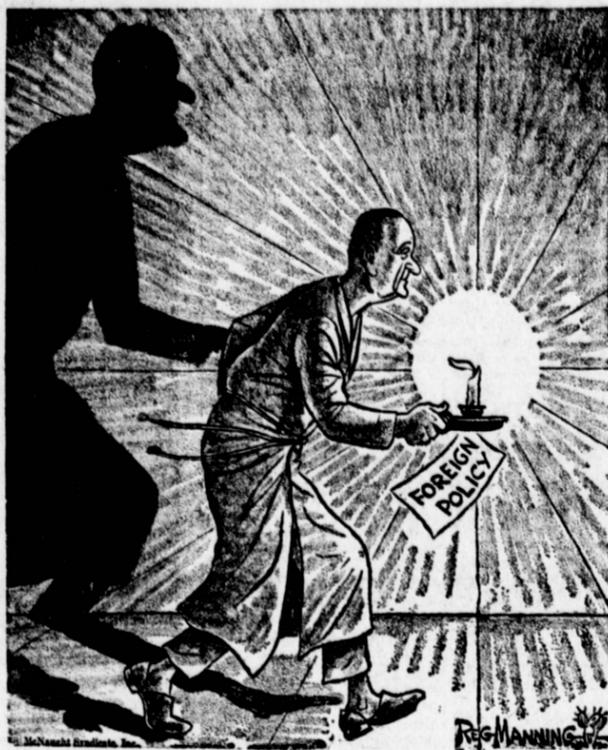
In a special front-page note, Torrance residents were invited to hear Frank Sinatra sing at an Air Women's Army Corps recruiting program in Long Beach. Tickets were free.

### 10 Years Ago

Filing opened for seats on the Torrance Board of Education, and another school bond issue was before the voters of a rapidly growing Torrance, reported The HERALD for March 18, 1954. The local Red Cross reported it was near its \$14,000 quota as the drive took a turn for the stretch.

Torrance High basketballer Bob Moon was named to the all-CIF second team. Moon was the only Bay Leaguer to make the CIF teams.

## Maybe We Need More Light, Not Less



### FROM the MAILBOX

## Candidate Renews Claim Of Local 'Corruption'

Editor, Torrance Herald

I was interested in your fascinating—and faulty—logic in describing some of the candidates seeking office in the April 14 City Council election as "tar marchants" because they have charged "corruption" in city government.

Apparently you are assuming these candidates have taken the narrow definition of "corruption"—meaning graft or bribery. But Roget's Thesaurus also defines "corruption" as "political intrigue." Further, Webster's unabridged International Dictionary, second edition (1937), defines "corruption" in the following ways:

- b. Impairment of integrity, virtue, or moral principle; depravity; impurity; specif., inducement (of a person) by means of improper considerations to commit a violation of duty.
- c. Act of changing, or state of being changed, for the worse; a departure from what is pure, simple, or correct; as, a corruption of style; corruption in language.

If the above definitions are accurate, and the information released from the Attorney General's Report and the District Attorney's Report is truthful (I understand testimony in both was given under oath), then there can be only one logical conclusion: There is corruption in Torrance city government.

Former Police Chief Percy Bennett testified, the Los Angeles Times reported, that he drove Mayor Albert Ise home from bars because he was fearful that Mayor Ise would use political pressure to cost him his job (inducement of a person by improper considerations to commit a violation of duty).

The alleged irregularities in certain functions of the Police Department certainly indicate a departure from what is pure, simple, or correct and even suggest im-

## Quote

Senator Goldwater has often expressed approval of an effective union of nations, but if one honestly examines the evidence on the UN, his skepticism about it as it exists today is understandable. —Virginia L. Scott, Santa Monica.

We must first learn to live at peace with ourselves before we can learn to live at peace with the rest of the world.—William J. Romaine.

If there ever is a war with women commanding the forces, I want to be on some distant planet.—B. E. Balliot on woman president.

pairment of integrity and virtue.

Against this background (and that's about all the information yet made available to the public) it seems the height of journalistic irresponsibility for a newspaper to blandly brand innocent candidates seeking election as "tar marchants." How much better for Torrance citizens if you would devote your energies and talents to uncovering the report and publishing it in its entirety or at least significant parts. And as for Mayor Ise suing for libel—you know that truth is an absolute defense in the State of California. He has yet to sue the Los Angeles Times.

Integrity and freedom start with the press in this country, or at least that's what the Fourth Estate frequently claims. A vigorous campaign by the Torrance Herald to sift out the truth without relying on vituperation would convince many doubters that the claim is justified.

JOHN F. MULVHILL,  
New Candidate for  
Torrance City Council

### Stan Delaplane

## Skip Europe in August; It's Torrid and Crowded

"We planned to go to Europe this August but understand it is very crowded and hot at that time of year..."

Right on both. Like Americans, the Europeans vacation in August. Half the restaurants in Paris will be closed... the French head for the beaches. Which also means you probably can't get rooms at the beach resorts.

The Germans and Scandinavians and British will have booked most of the Costa Brava in Spain. And you go limp in the Madrid heat. Rome is overloaded with Americans. And every Swiss watchmaker takes his vacation in August and heads for the Swiss lakes.

If you have reservations and stay in one place, you do fine. But if you are on the grand tour, it's like taking your vacation on the rush hour commute train. The big season doesn't slack off until mid-September.

"Could you give me some information on Spain where we expect to go in July? Should we take train or bus around the country? Guided tour or not? Costs?"

My idea would be to get there in June. By July it gets hot from Madrid southward. Government offices close and everybody heads for beach or mountain.

Take the Spanish tour by bus. Trains are not so good. I think the guided tour is good... particularly if it's your first time in Spain. Costs will be a delight. Spain is still inexpensive. I'd estimate \$15 a day for two would cover everything.

Now, if you want to do this on your own: Car rentals are cheap in Spain. Use a Span-

ish car agency — ATESA is a good one. If you are not already using traveler's checks, buy Spanish checks. They're about one-third the cost.

Gasoline is about 90 cents a gallon. But your car won't use more than three a day. Cigarettes are cheaper in Spain than anywhere in Europe — about 35 cents for American brands in the Government kiosks and the same on the open black market.

North from Madrid is the cool country. Very few tourists and most of these will be French. The Atlantic coast is Galicia. And I'm high on the old Roman town of Pontevedra. Deep blue inlets and white beaches. Fishing towns. Good wines and sea food. Weather about 70 degrees.

Return to Madrid by driving south into Portugal. Turn toward the hills and Spain again at the old university town of Coimbra. Your best hotels will be Government-owned, historic inns called paradores in Spain, pousadas in Portugal. Cost will be about \$2 a day per person with three meals included.

"We want to take two weeks of our European trip to lie on a beach but would like to find an uncrowded area. Would that be possible on the Riviera?"

I surely doubt it. All that area — France, Spain or Italy — is popular and loaded. Friends of mine who've looked into the new areas (TWA public relations people) say the untouched areas now are in south Portugal and north Africa.

There are two new luxury hotels at Sagres, Portugal, where 100 miles of beach goes all the way to Spain. Prices are \$5 to \$6.50 a day

### ROYCE BRIER

## Rusk Explains Nation's Foreign Policy on Reds

Secretary of State Dean Rusk has offered a detailed explanation of the variations in American policy dealing with the several Communist nations.

The speech had some political significance in an election year, but was needful in view of long-standing criticism of policy in Congress. This criticism tends to assume that all governments professing Communist philosophy are equally culpable as enemies of the free world.

Mr. Rusk denies this. "The Communist world," he says, "is no longer a single flock of sheep following blindly behind one leader." (It must be noted in passing that neither was the "single flock of sheep" theory valid in the days of Leon Trotsky.)

Anyway, the Secretary declared the Soviet Union and Red China, though they both aim for world revolution, are far apart in their method of achieving it.

Red China, he says, is willing to risk its survival in promoting world revolution, and demands the Russians risk their own national interests in the same cause. But the Russians have rejected this doctrine, and the use of force implicit in it.

It is for this reason the United States sells wheat to the Soviet Union (though this constitutes no change of policy), while maintaining an economic embargo on Red China.

Within the Communist world, Rusk says, there is a trend toward independence in smaller nations, notably Yugoslavia and Poland. Yugoslavia early and successfully resisted the Stalin dictate. It then ended support of guerrilla forces in Greece, and it is now shipping arms intended to overthrow the Venezuelan government. Since 1956 Poland has maintained a measure of national autonomy, with "domestic liberalization."

Cuba is a special case. "There will be no retreat from our policy (on Cuba) as long as it continues to threaten the security and stability of other nations in this hemisphere." The Secretary,

therefore, sees no inconsistency in aiding Yugoslavia and Poland and selling wheat to Russia, while objecting when other free nations sell goods to Cuba.

Mr. Rusk says Romania has recently shown an attitude of independence from Moscow, responding to overtures for better relations with Bucha-

rest. He did not mention the recent news that Romania will send a mission to Peking. Most observers, however, do not think this means Romania is about to side with Red China against the Soviet Union.

As for Peking, it "flouts the first condition for peace: leave your neighbors alone."

### Our Man Hoppe

## Evils of Politics 'A Melodrama'

—Art Hoppe

ACT ONE

(Scene: A Park avenue apartment. Rick Dixon, a successful, wealthy young attorney, enters to be greeted by his attractive wife, his two lovely daughters, and a decrepit cocker spaniel.)

MR. DIXON (waving both hands and smiling): Hi, hi, hi, everybody. It's great to be here with you this evening.

MRS. DIXON: It's only us, dear. Heavens! You didn't fall off the... .

MR. DIXON: No, no, of course not. It's merely that I was talking to a couple of reporters today and it kind of took me back.

MRS. DIXON (wringing her hands): Reporters! But darling, you promised. Remember. After California you took the pledge never, never to touch politics again. And we've all been so happy. You've made good on Wall Street. The girls are leading normal lives. Why, for the past six months nobody's even kicked Checkers.

MR. DIXON: Yes, I have sworn off forever. I am a new man. And that's exactly what I told those reporters. "I am not," I said flatly, "a candidate for President."

MRS. DIXON (throwing her arms around him): Oh, darling. I am so proud of you.

MR. DIXON: And now I must go pack. (A gleam in his eye as he exits.) For I must carry my campaign against being elected President to every one of our 50 great States!

MRS. DIXON (gathering the children and the dog around her): Oh, little ones, I fear what the future holds in store.

ACT TWO

(Scene: the same, two months later. Mr. Dixon, haggard and worn, is slumped in his easy chair.)

MR. DIXON: I can't understand it. I've told everybody I am not a candidate for President. And all they say is: "Is that so?"

MRS. DIXON (nervously): There, there dear. I'm sure it's for the best. We're rich and happy... .

MR. DIXON (leaping up): Hark! I hear the trumpet call of duty.

MRS. DIXON: Really, dear, I didn't hear a thing.

MR. DIXON (Hands twitching): Yes, my party needs me. I must, in deep humility, announce I will serve in any humble office where I am needed. After all, being Vice President isn't too bad. Speeches, crowds, cheers... .

MRS. DIXON (crumbling in a heap): Oh, cruel fate! (Lifting her head) But then perhaps one more defeat is the tonic he needs to yet be saved.

ACT THREE

(Scene: The local precinct headquarters, a month later. Mr. Dixon, his eyes red, his tie askew, is whooping it up with some of the boys. Mrs. Dixon, the two girls and the dog appear forlornly in the doorway.)

THE GIRLS (tugging his sleeve): Father, dear father, come home with us now.

MR. DIXON (shrugging them off): Get lost, brats. I've just been elected Precinct Captain. C'mon fellows, let's have one more little speech for the road.

MRS. DIXON (tragically): Precinct Captain! Alas it is too late. For he has once again tasted victory and now he will never renounce the Evils of Politics. Ah, that I had but listened to my wise mother's advice. And married The Drunkard instead.

## Opinions of Others

Too many Congressmen have the idea that everything is accomplished when they appropriate money. —Cuero (Tex.) Record.

Taxwise the nation (federal government) avoids realities. It demands its heavy income tax from the people at large, then supports many tax exempt business lines at the expense of the taxpayer. —Odessa (Wash.) Record.

## Morning Report:

Speaking as the only living former Republican Vice President, Richard M. Nixon says he is willing to accept the No. 2 place on the party's ticket this year. No other candidates for the presidential nomination can make this claim. And if only the rest of them would, it would make things easier for Nixon to get the top spot. For then he could team up with just about any one of them.

For he is as conservative as Goldwater, as liberal as Rockefeller, as experienced as Lodge, as uncommitted on any issue as Scranton and has lost almost as many elections as Stassen.

I figure all this makes Nixon a candidate's candidate and a top runner at the GOP convention in July.

Abe Mellinkoff

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